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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/922,928	08/07/2001	Clive L. Sangster	B7150-0001/P001	9007

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EXAMINER

BERRY, WILLIE WENDELL JR

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3723

DATE MAILED: 03/13/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/922,928

Applicant(s)

CLIVE L. SANGSTER ET AL. *CL*

Examiner

Willie Berry, Jr.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 November 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 7 and 14 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. The claims are improper because an independent apparatus claim can not be further limited by dependent method claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. No art has been applied to claims 6, 7, 13, and 14 because the scope of claims is unclear.

The following phrases in the claims are vague, indefinite, and/or awkwardly and confusingly worded:

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I. "the curved surface" (claims 1 and 8, line 1). Lacks proper antecedent basis.

II. "the sense" (claims 1 and 8, line 3). Lacks proper antecedent basis.

III. "the intermediate pad" (claims 1 and 8, lines 7-8 and 8-9 respectively). Lacks proper antecedent basis.

IV. "the material" (claims 4 and 11, line 1). Lacks proper antecedent basis.

V. "the outer surfaces" (claim 8, line 4). Lacks proper antecedent basis.

VI. "the minimum space" (claim 8, line 5). Lacks proper antecedent basis.

VII. "A lens tool.....pad." (claims 6 and 13, lines 1-3). Claims 6 and 13 are indefinite because they are in improper form, an independent can not refer back to a dependent claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-5 and 8-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dillon.

Dillon discloses an intermediate urethane lens pad (50) having inherent recesses and protuberances and a lens surfacing pad (62).

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Dillin does not disclose an adhesive on one side of the lens surfacing pad, the specific size and arrangement of the recesses and protuberances, and specific material of the pad.

In regard to the adhesive on one side of the lens surfacing pad would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, since adhesive is old and well known in the art and to have used adhesive in this way adds no patentable significance to the claim.


The specific size and arrangement of the recesses and protuberances, and specific material of the pad would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, since it is within the general skill of the worker in the art to select size, location, and material on the basis of their suitability for the user's preference as a matter of obvious design choice.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Willie Berry whose telephone number is (703) 308-7467.



Willie Berry, Jr. :wbj

Examiner

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March 10, 2002